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For Immediate Release

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**Environment Department to Offer Free Water Testing in Pojoaque
Saturday, September 11**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau, in collaboration with the Santa Fe County, North Central NM Economic Development District, Pueblo of Pojoaque, and Los Alamos National Laboratory, will offer free testing of water from private domestic wells in Pojoaque this Saturday, September 11, 2004.

The free testing for pH, conductivity, organic vapors, nitrate, sulfate, fluoride, iron, and heavy metals will be held from 9am to 12 noon at the Frank B. Lopez Gym, Middle and Intermediate School, near the intersection of US 285 and SR 502. Residents of Pojoaque Valley and neighboring communities who have not already brought samples to the previous Water Fairs held this summer are encouraged to attend.

In order to be tested, samples must be at least ½ gallon in volume, freshly drawn from a cold water tap, and brought in a covered, clean glass or plastic container that did not previously contain milk, pickles, juice, or other substances with strong odor. If possible, samples should be collected before passing through any water treatment system, such as a water softener, reverse osmosis, or an activated carbon filter.

For further information contact Jerzy Kulis, Ground Water Bureau, NMED at (505) 827-2828 or Jon Goldstein, NMED, Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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